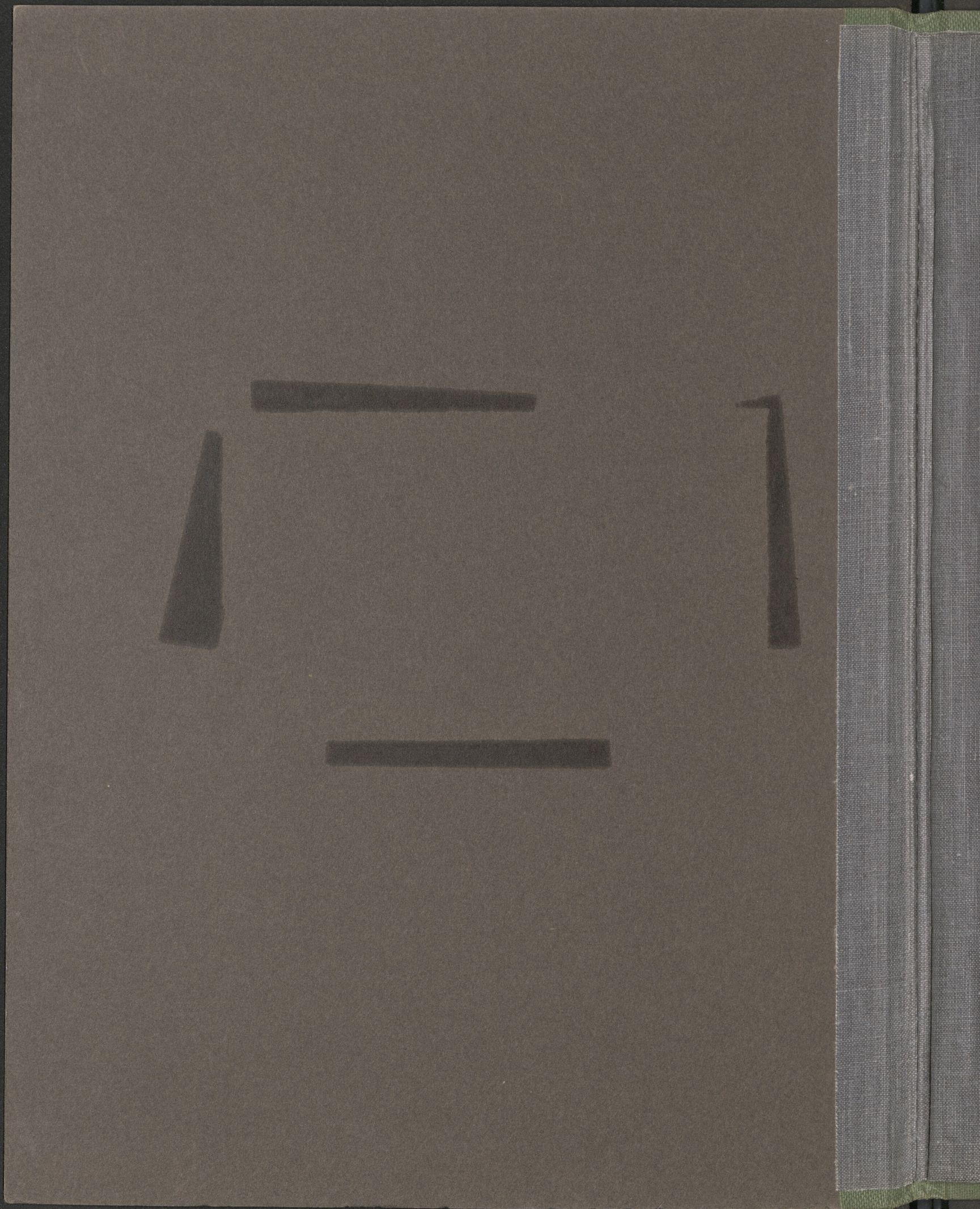


15

Voyage to Greenland



Journal of a Voyage to Greenland
in the Ship (Américain) Pseudope, François
Gardner, Commandeur from Dunkirk France

Wednesday March 26th 1788. At 2 o'clock in the morning
we left the Port of Dunkirk, and anchored in the bay
at 2 P.M. weighed anchor, and stood to the S.W. with
the wind at East by South at 6 o'clock we were
from Dunkirk.

Thursday March 27th wind at East North East
fair all sail out saw a number of vessels. Lat.
Long 02-35 East.

Friday March 28th wind East by East
at 6 P.M. single reefed on top sails. Lat.
Long 03 East.

Saturday March 29th wind South East by East
single reefed top sails came north we were
Lat. 58.04 Long. 37 East.

Monday March 31st wind North at 8 P.M. hauled
to the South South East some rain at 6. wore ship.
and made sail. and stood to the North by West.
at 9. made Shetland, and run in with it at 11.
laid off and spoke with a ship belonging to London
which came out of a harbor 5 leagues to the South
West of us Lat. 60.

Tuesday April 1st trying for a harbor at Shetland
at 6. wind shifted from South West to North West.
New fresh at 12. o'clock the wind died we made sail
and beat to the windward saw one ship come out
of the harbor Lat. 60 - 04 two leagues from the land.

Wednesday April 2nd wind at North that we making
in with the land at 6. o'clock a Pilot came on
board at the mouth of the harbor we in so far as to
see the shipping.

Thursday April 3rd came to anchor in Brage bay
we found 24 sail of ships latter part of the day
wind North North East we filling with fresh water.

Friday April 4th Saturday 5th Sunday 6th
Monday 7th Tuesday 8th still lying at Prætor bay.

Wednesday April 9th 10 o'clock weighed anchor, and
put to sea in company with 4 ships wind South
West bound for Greenland.

Thursday April 10th wind South West came North
North East wind still continuous with rough sea
Lat. 62 13. Long 34. West.

Friday April 11th first part of the day some rain
light wind at East North East. two ships in sight
Lat. 63.50 Long. 50 West.

Saturday April 12th wind at North East latter part
of the day wind South some rain Lat. 65-40 Long. 41 1/2

Sunday April 13th first part of the day fresh wind came
North East by North latter part of the day some thick
weather Lat. 67 59 Long. 40 East.

Monday April 14th thick weather wind North West
at 10 o'clock reefed our top sails Lat. 69-02 Long. 01-29

Tuesday April 15th wind North West rugged sea
some snow course North North East. Lat. 60-53
Long 2-45 East.

Wednesday April 16th wind North blowing hard
with squalls of snow our course North East Lat. 70-51
Long. 05-15 East.

Thursday April 17th wind and snow at 6 o'clock
made ship with the wind at North saw 3 ships
weather moderate but a large swell Lat. 71 Long. 3-17 East.

Friday April 18th wind East North East at 7 o'clock
made ship, and reefed our top sails saw 5 Ships at 11
made ship and stood to the North East Lat. 71-26
Long 3-12

Saturday April 19th wind East South East some snow
at 4 P.M. reefed our top sails at 12 stood to the southward
made ship and stood to the North East saw 2 Ships

Lat. 73-02 Long. 44-38.

Sunday April 20th wind East South East some snow
rugged we under two reefed top sails came North East by
North Lat. 74-10 Long. 5-48.

Monday April 21st wind East South East standing to
the North East by North under two reefed top sails at
10 o'clock we found more ice some tacked 16 sail
of ships in sight all standing off and on some thick
flights of snow. Lat. 75-40 Long. 7-54.

Tuesday April 22nd wind East plenty of snow we lying
off and on a number of ships in sight Lat. 75-36
Long. 7-54.

Wednesday April 23rd wind East we standing to
the North North East among ice many ships in sight
at 6 o'clock reefed our top sails fresh wind and some
snow Lat. 75-45 Long. 7-56.

Thursday April 24th wind at South we lying to under
one reefed top sails in company with a number of
ships latter part of the day wind shifted to the North West
fair weather first we have had since leaving Shetland

Lat. 76-18 Long. S-33.

Friday April 25th light wind at North West we standing to the North at 4 P.M. spoke with a ship from London run through some ice and came to clear water Lat. 77- Long. 10.

Saturday April 26th wind at North East we beating to the windward in a small stream of water latter part of the day cold could get no farther on acct of the ice was up and stood out in company with a number of ships Lat. 76-54. 50 Sail of ships in sight.

Sunday April 27th wind at North moderate we in a stream of water lying by near a hundred sail of ships weather still fine with a large fleet still in sight.

Monday April 28th we still among ice light wind and fine weather but no whales in company with a number of ships

Tuesday April 29th. wind north we among ice
wind still to the North, and ice very thick
saw land but no whales nearly 100 sail of ships
in sight.

Wednesday April 30th wind North North West some
snow latter part of the wind moderate but cold still
in company with a large number of ships Lat. 76-58

Thursday May 1st. wind to the North and cold
latter part calm water all frozen over plenty of snow
we in a small bay.

Friday May 2^d wind at North East close reefed our
top sails at 12 o'clock were packed in the ice so we had
no use for sails but got two warps to the ice so as to
bring our ship stern to the wind 20 sails of ships in
the same condition Lat. 77-07 land in sight

Saturday May 3^d cold and we close reefed, and
still packed in the ice 30 ships in sight Lat. 77-15.

Sunday May 4th fresh wind at East South East
still in the ice 30 ships in sight.

Monday May 5th wind at East we in the ice
saw one whale latter part of the day fresh gale at
North plenty of snow we are still fast to a large
cake of ice.

Tuesday May 6th wind at North plenty of snow
we in ice fresh wind and cold.

Wednesday May 7th lying in ice brought our ship
by the stern, and mended our cutter where the
ice had cut it, and store in two of our knees
50 sail of ships in sight. Lat. 76-52.

Thursday May 8th stowed down our water, filled some
salt water for ballast fair weather, and small wind
at North still in ice 50 ships in sight. Lat. 76-45.

Friday May 9th Calm, and still in ice latter part
of the day we made sail, and the ice opened so we
made some headway to the Eastward where we found

a stream of water running to the North East.

Saturday May 10th. wind South West saw a number of whales but could not strike one latter part of the day some snow and ice but saw whales many ships in sight Lat. 77-22.

Sunday May 11th made fast to the ice and hauled our sails to sail of ships in ice saw 2 whales wind at North West Lat. 77-11

Monday May 12th wind at West beat with ice at 6. set close reefed to sails we could not make much headway latter part of the day the ice opened, and we made sail and run through the broken ice to the East North East.

Tuesday May 13th fresh wind at South East we lying by in ice latter part of the day made sail to press through the ice weather thick and some snow saw one whale.

Wednesday May 14th. Gale of wind at the East. and thick snow storm still lying in the ice with some swell wind changed to the North, and blew hard saw one whale in a small hole. 7 Ships in sight.

Thursday May 15th. fresh wind at the North we in the ice saw many whales in a small hole latter part of the day plenty of whales but plenty of ice came near striking one but did not Lat. 77 Wind at South West we making to the North East.

Friday May 16th. wind at South we making through the ice saw a number of whales but could not get at them latter part of the day thick weather plenty of snow and wind 5 Sail of ships in sight some chasing whales we riding to the ice with thick snow but more clear water than we have had for three weeks.

Saturday May 17th Wind West we steering to the North North East much ice saw several whales at 6 o'clock saw the land bearing North East by North we standing for it 15 Ships in sight Lat. 78 33 land mostly covered with snow.

Sunday May 18th At 6 o'clock came on a fresh wind at North, and reef cold we in a stream of water that runs within 9 miles of Charles Island wind still continued we trying to get to the mentioned a number of ships in

sight Lat. by good observation 78-29 no whales to be seen
this 24 hours.

Monday May 19th Fresh wind from the North we plying
to the windward saw many ships but no whales
"Charles Island" North East 15 Leagues.

Tuesday May 20th Wind at North North East we under
close reefed top sails very cold our ship having much ice
about her latter part of the day still blowing hard
with squalls of snow number of ships in sight.

Wednesday May 21st Light Wind at North North East
we plying in a stream of water at 7 o'clock got fast to a
large cake of ice, and landed our sails much ice, and
very cold plenty of snow saw one whale, and plenty of ships

Thursday May 22^d Fresh wind at North East thick
snow, and plenty of ice we still lying too in the ice
some ships in sight.

Friday May 23^d Wind at East thick snow storm latter
part of the day saw whales but could not get at them

Saturday May 24th. Wind at South. South. East plenty
of snow latter part of the day calm, and clear saw
land lying East 10 mile of ship in sight Lat. 78-10.

Sunday May 25th. saw plenty of whales but could not get
at them on acct of the Bay ice wind at North East
fair weather Lat. 78-12.

Monday May 26th. One boat in Bay ice wind at
North saw one whale but could not get him, the sea
so full of ice that we could not work our ship all
sail handed.

Tuesday May 27th. Still lying in the ice with the wind
at North North West.

Wednesday May 28th. Light wind at South West
we making some way through the ice saw some whales

Thursday May 29th. Saw one whale but could not strike
at 4 o'clock got clear from the ice, and found clear water
saw whales but could not catch them many ships in
sight Lat 78-36.

Friday May 30th Light wind saw no whales fine weather
plenty of ships in sight saw the land standing to the southward.

Saturday May 31st Wind North North East saw no whales
a number of ships in sight all standing to the Southward
for ship cannot find whales to the Northward spoke with
Capt. Mores with 3 whales.

Sunday June 1st Wind North East lying back and forth
in a stream of water in company with many ships
saw one whale fresh wind, and snow.

Monday June 2^d Wind at North East saw some whales
at 2 o'clock hauled our Mizzen top sail, and lay back
and forth under close reefed top sails at 5 o'clock stood
to the Eastward where we found more clear water saw
one whale hard by but the weather being bad we could
not get him.

Tuesday June 3^d Wind to the North North East, and
cold 5 ships in sight.

Wednesday June 4th Saw whales chased them but could
not strike any so ends this 24 hours.

Thursday June 5th. Saw whales saw two wrecks which were stranded, and left. one was the "London of London" the other a ship belonging to "Whitby" the men were saved. Saw whales among the ice but could not come at them.

Friday June 6th Wind North at 4 o'clock left the ice got clear water saw one whale latter part of the day fresh wind at North West 100 ships in sight. Lat. 78.

Saturday June 7th Saw whales but could not strike latter part of the day struck a whale which ran us into the ice, and drew our iron so ends this 24 hours with hard luck.

Sunday June 8th. Killed a 10 foot bone whale, and mated with Capt. Morris. and struck one that run over line, our whale all in board many ships in sight so ends this 24 hours with health.

Monday June 9th Moderate north wind at West fine weather we running to the Southward through the sailing ice in company with a number of ships Lat. 78.

Tuesday June 10th. Fair weather. Killed a whale in company with Capt. Mores at 7 o'clock finished cutting our whale the mind at South West blowing fresh we made sail the ice near by and very heavy.

Wednesday June 11th. Wind at South South West a fresh gale we lying under close reefed top sails some ships in company.

Thursday June 12th. Fresh wind at North West fair weather no whales Lat. 78-23.

Friday June 13th. Fair weather but fresh wind at South West we under close reefed saw several ships running to the North.

Saturday June 14th. Fresh wind at South West we killed a whale being aided with Capt. Mores and cut him up having some ice to the mindward latter part of the day light wind, and thick weather.

Sunday June 15th. Light wind and fog saw no whales so ends this 24 hours.

Monday June 16th. Fair weather but no whales saw many ships so ends.

Tuesday June 17th. Wind at East South East. and snow ice to the Southward saw some ships so ends.

Wednesday June 18th. Wind South West so sail of ships in sight but no whales latter part of the day thick weather.

Thursday June 19th. Wind at South East with rain, and snow latter part of the day the wind changed to the South West but a large swell.

Friday June 20th. Wind at West we saw some ice to the Westward we saw the land 15. Leagues distant East 78 and no whales.

Saturday June 21st Light wind we trying our whale at 8 o'clock put out our fire with a fresh wind, and snow capped sea.

Sunday June 22^d Wind at South rugged sea plenty of snow
saw ice to the West of us at 4 o'clock the wind changed to the
North but still thick saw a number of ships but no whales
Lat. 79-02. Highest Lat

Monday June 23^d Wind North some snow at 8 o'clock
began to freeze saw a number of ships but no whales so ends

Tuesday June 24th Wind at North North West we still
tuying at 8 o'clock we laid off to the North "Inland" bearing
to the South South East 6 leagues distant no whales to be seen.

Wednesday June 25th Wind West North West at 11 o'clock
put out our fires and set more sail to keep off from the land
at 8. put about and began to tuy again saw 3 ships
land to the leeward no ice to be seen.

Thursday June 26th Wind at West we saw plenty of ice
to the westward at 4 o'clock finished tuying so ends this
24 hours straining our oil, and storing away.

Friday June 27th Wind South South West the "Inland" 10
leagues distant bearing East saw "Inland" bearing East, North
East, 15 leagues distant, and plenty of ice. 1st no whales

Saturday June 28th. Wind South South East some snow
with thick weather mind fresh with squalls of snow
saw several ships but no ice.

Sunday June 29th Some squalls of snow with wind at
West South West. at 6 o'clock more ship, and stood to the
North West so ends this 24 hours straining oil.

Monday June 30th. Wind South West at 7 o'clock more ship
thick weather some snow no whales to be seen.

Tuesday July 1st. Fresh wind at South West, and thick
weather mind changed to the Westward we standing to the
Southward so ends this 24 hours with flights of snow.

Wednesday July 2^d. Wind North West we steering West
South West some squalls of snow saw one ship, and some
ice Lat 76-45.

Thursday July 3^d. Wind North West some fog found the
ice too thick so we more ship, and stood to the Eastward
and got clear, and then bore away to the Southward Lat. 75-49.

Friday July 4th Wind South East with a smooth sea
saw 4 ships spoke one saw ice on our lee bow but no
whales Lat. 75-05.

Saturday July 5th Wind at South, South, East, at
10 o'clock went about near the ice, and stood to the
Eastward wind changed to the South West, and thick
fog Lat. 75-20 Long. 4 East.

Sunday July 6th Fog with wind at South East
saw 2 ships we steering South West Lat. 74-40 Long 2. East

Monday July 7th Thick fog wind South East course
South, South West Lat. 73-30.

Tuesday July 8th Some fog, and wind at South, East
course South West. Lat. 71-55.

Wednesday July 9th Wind South, South, East.
saw 3 ships Lat. 71.

Thursday July 10th Wind North East came South West
one ship in sight latter part of the day wind East
North, East some fog steering South West Lat. 70 Long. 1. West.

Friday July 11th Wind South East, and fog came South
West at 8 o'clock tacked ship, and stood to the South East
by South Lat. 69. Long. 3. West.

Saturday July 12th. Wind South West, and fog so
ends this 24 hours Lat. 68-33 Long. 5-25

Sunday July 13th. Wind South East thick weather
latter part of the day calm, and foggy Lat. 68-08 Long. 6-14.

Monday July 14th Wind South West some fog came
South South East saw one ship at 8 o'clock tacked, and
stood to the South West Lat. 67-35 Long. 14-14.

Tuesday July 15th Wind South East came South South
West at 3 o'clock reefed our top-sails at 10 took the second reef
latter part of the day still blowing hard, and had seen Lat. 66-06 Long. 26-00

Wednesday July 16th Fresh wind ruffled sea no under-
current wind still at South, and fog so ends Lat. 65-51 Long. 7-12.

Thursday July 17th Some fog, and light wind at
South so ends this 24 hours Lat. 65-30 Long. 7-57.

Friday July 18th Wind West South West came South
latter part of the day fine weather, and clear wind
South West by West Lat. 64-39 Long. 7-06.

Saturday July 19th Wind South West, and clear.
came South South East caught some Mackerel
Lat. 63-42 Long. 4-32.

Sunday July 20th Wind West came South, South West
latter part of the day dirty weather hauled by the wind
East by South under two reefed top sails no land to
be seen Lat. 62-13 Long. 4-32.

Monday July 21st Fresh wind at North, East by North.
at 4 o'clock part the land which proved to be the Norway, since
we found we had an Eastward course saw several ships Lat. 62-05
land 10 leagues distant.

Tuesday July 22^d Spoke with a Brig. from
at 2 o'clock made ship, and stood off the land at 4 o'clock
reefed our top-sails the wind at South West by West.
Blowing hard at 6 o'clock dottle reefed our top-sails at
7 o'clock made ship so ends with squally weather Lat. 62-3
Long. 3-49. East.

Wednesday July 23^d Fresh wind at West South West,
and rugged sea we under two reefed top-sails at 4 o'clock
handed our fore top-sail at 10 o'clock handed our Main
top-sail came North West. Lat. 62-26 Long. 2-03. East.

Thursday July 24th Wind at South West rugged sea
some rain caught some mackerel Lat. 61-18 Long. 2-33

Friday July 25th Wind at North West latter part
wind at West so ends Lat. 61-15 Long. 2-40.

Saturday July 26th Fresh wind at North all sail out
came South West so ends Lat. 58-47. Long. 1-03.

Sunday July 27th. Wind South West. latter part of the
wind North East came South South West so ends Lat. 57-17
Long. 1.26. East.

Monday July 28th. Wind North North East. came South
South West saw 4 ships so ends Lat. 56.24 Long. 1-30 East.

Tuesday July 29th Wind North North East came South.
South West. latter part calm saw one sail so ends with
fair weather Lat. 55-45 Long. 1.36.

Wednesday July 30th Wind South West some rain saw
4 ships cloudy weather came South South West Lat. 55.30 Long. 1-20

Thursday July 31st Wind North East saw two ships, and
three sail more latter part wind South West fair weather
spoke with a ship from "Norway" bound to "Amel" at 4 o'clock
had 14 fathoms water on "Danger bank" at 10 o'clock tacked
ship with the wind at West by South came South by West
Lat. 54-50 Long. 1.05.

Friday Aug. 1st caught plenty of mackerel wind
North West. came South West saw three sail, and
spoke one ship. Lat. 53-25 Long. 1.24.

Saturday Aug. 2nd Fair weather wind North East
at 4 o'clock spoke with a ship who told us that "Jamaica"
bore West 10 leagues saw plenty of vessels came South, West.
Lat. 51-55. Long. 37. East.

Sunday Aug. 3rd First part light wind came
South, West, by South, latter part light wind at West,
at 9 o'clock made the "South Faerland" so we bore away
for "Dunkirk" at noon took our Pill. on board the
tide being up we put in over the bar so ends this
24 hours.

On a leaf of the Journal are
these men

From Benjamin Rotch 30 Crowns
Cash paid for board 13 1/2 Crowns
after our return from Whaling.

Account of Cash advanced

Elisha Fozze (mate)	8 Crowns	(54/1000)
Jonathan C. Briggs	6	do (boy 17 1/2)
Quas Merstander	10	do (boy 19)
Geo North	9	" (17 1/2)
Reuben Gardner	5	"
Asa Swift	5	"
William Thompson	10	"
Calvin Gardner	1 Jacket	17 Shirts
one Cap		1. 13 "
1 pair shoes		4. 16 "
John Walker Sundries		52. 07 "

Cash received from Montier
D. Broqua 73 Crowns
20 do

93 Crowns on a/c.

Memorandum of
articles on board Ship
left, such as we have always had
here enumerated. Cash. tools. Whaling
gear, Coopers tools. Iron Works &c &c,
not necessary to item.

The Ship was owned by
William Rotch & Sons and
went from Nantucket with
many other of our ships and
took out French papers as
per agreement with Louis 16th
and his Ministers at that time,
1785. And this fleet was contin-
ued by other ships new & old as
late as 185 when Mr William
R. Rodman deceased, who was
a grandson of Mr Rotch and always
kept up the fleet under the agency
of Jeremiah Whistler, who resided
in Haver, Mr Moore was agent
up to 1819 when he died aged 74 yrs.

William Moore was one of our
noble old sea Captains and he always
sailed for the Rotch & long as he went
to sea & then he left the sea to become
their agent at Sunbury. He ^{was in} ~~Command~~ ^{of} the "Beaferd" ¹⁷⁸³ & last ship the "Mama"
that closed out her existence at Peru
South America in 1840. then 88 years
old, as she was built in North River (Mass)
in 1782, sunk & broken up at Ogita.

When William R. Rodman failed in
Philadelphia some years ago. old Mr
Rotch his grandfather redeemed the
who flees in France, and presented it
to his grandson, and when he died ^{March 28} (1855)
Mr Rodman left in an Estate one
million of dollars! valued \$1,000,000

I have a list of 200 of these ships
and their Commanders, sailing from
France, and as many more of our
own ships from London & their Commanders,
many of whom I knew when
a boy. I am to day Feb 3. 1872. 63 years old.

W. R. Rodman

William Gervase was born 1739

died at Nantucket 1814

Elisha Folger born 1746

and died at Nant 1836 was first Officer

James Norlander born 1769

died at Nantucket 1790

George North born 1765

died at Nantucket 1842

Jonathan C. Briggs born 1768

died at Nantucket 1853

I well knew Elisha Folger senior
and also Mr Briggs & Geo North
and obtained much information
from Mr, or earlier, Capt. Jonathan
C. Briggs who sailed for the Rotch,
many years in Europe & from here.

Ben Rotch was son to William Sen,
was born at Nantucket 1763 and
died in London 1839 - was father
to Mrs Prof Farrar recently of Cambridge
who gave us her 70 years Reminiscence in
a small volume a few years ago, born here,

William Rotch Senior Born
at Nantucket 1734. Died at
New Bedford May 1828. nearly 94^{yr.} old.

Francis Rotch Born at Nan-
tucket 1748. Died at New
Bedford 1822. This is the Tea importer!
in 1773. His widow Nancy died at
New Bedford 1867. 92 years old and
was his second wife. The first was
an English woman.

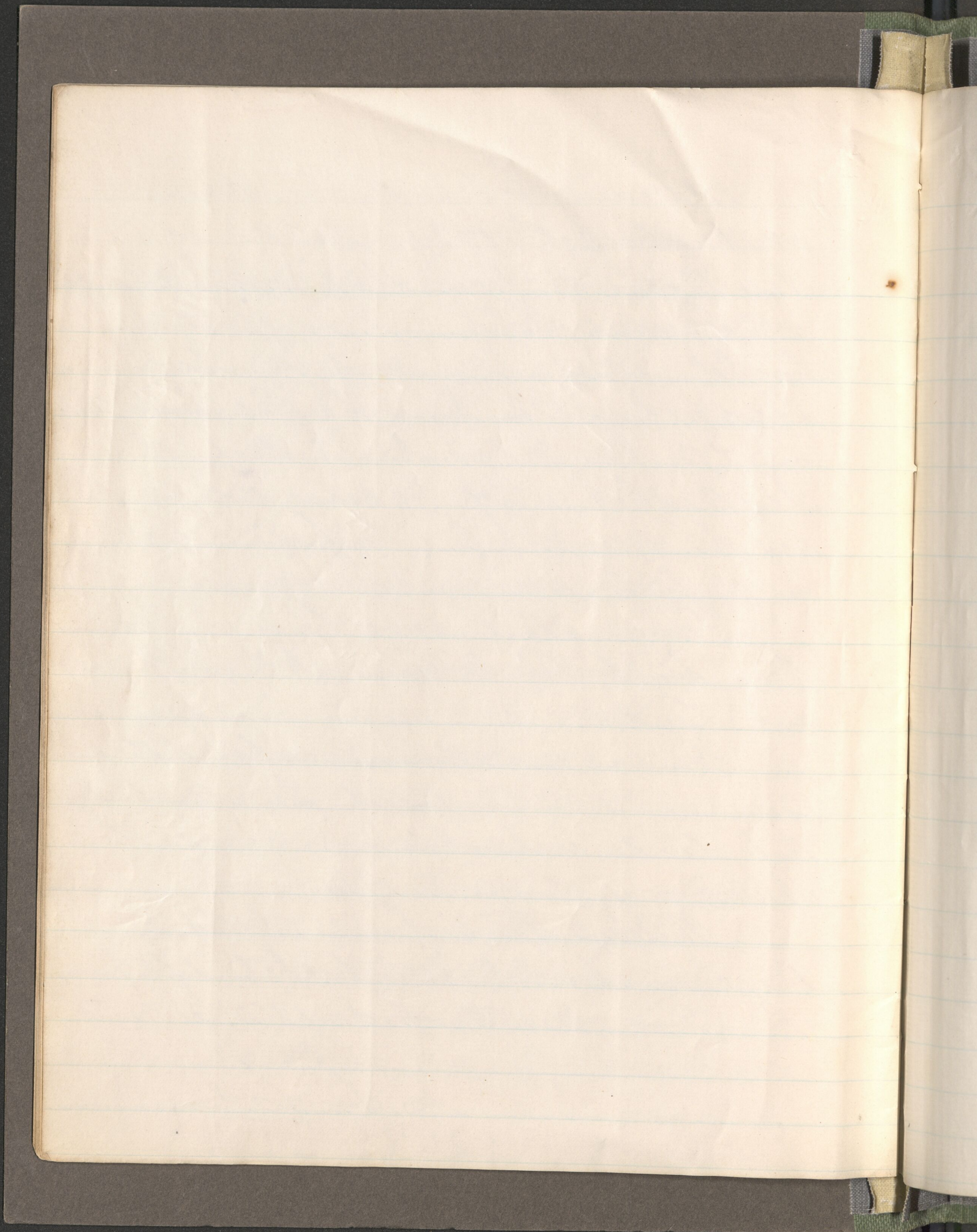
Francis spent more time in Europe
than his brother William, both in France
and London.

They had a brother Joseph Rotch
commanding a vessel from Nantucket
that died early while on a voyage to
Spain, or in Europe in 1774.

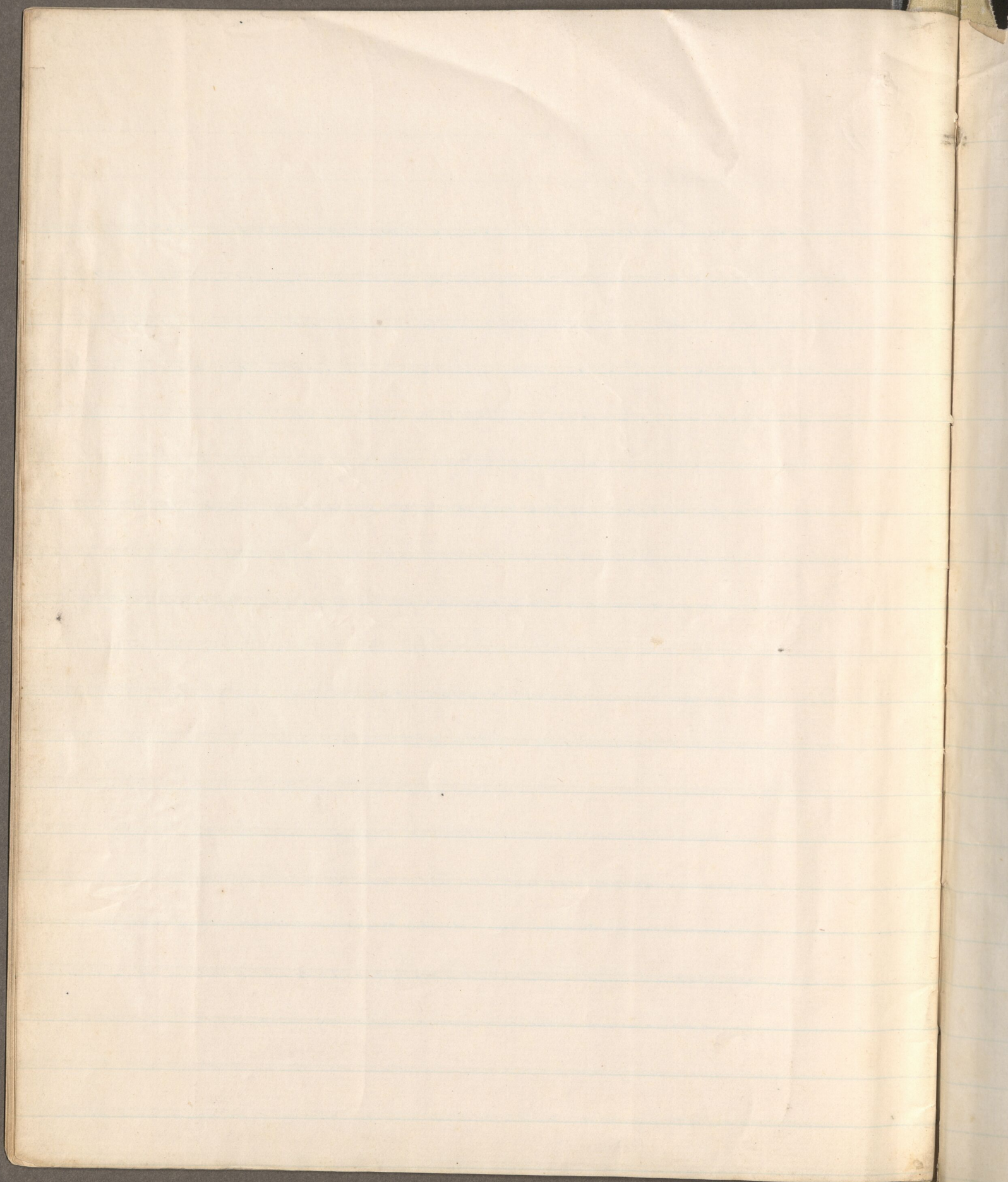
William Rotch Junior (brother of
Benjamin born at Nantucket 1759
died at New Bedford 1850. 91 years
old.

J. C. Sanford
Nantucket Feb 3rd 1872

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Binder



Photomount
Pamphlet
Binder
Gardner Bros. Inc.



Photomount
Pamphlet
Binder
Gaylord Bros. Inc.

Died
Saml Rodman Sen
Dec. 24, 1835
1757 Elizabeth his wife Aug 2 1856

Mistram Gardner Born 1739
died 1819.

M^r Rotch Born 1734
died May 1828

Bay his son Born 1763
Died in London 1839

M^r Rotch Jr Born 1759
died N Bedford 1850

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Makers
Syracuse, N. Y.
PAT. JAN 21, 1908

